

Yesterday the House passed a resolution celebrating the [accomplishments of Title IX](#) of the Education Amendments of 1972 (also known as the Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act). As a consequence of Title IX, women in 21st century America have more opportunity and freedom than at any other point in history. In fact, women now outnumber men at institutes of higher education, making up 57% of college graduates. Through the opportunities afforded to them by Title IX, the number of women who have moved into law, science, business, and government service has exploded. Unfortunately, despite the wonderful gains over the past 35 years, women face substantial barriers in the workplace and in their personal lives. For example,

[American women continue to earn less](#)

, are less likely to own a business, and are more likely to live in poverty than American men. Women are still the overwhelming victims of domestic violence, despite passage of the landmark Violence Against Women Act. Women are active participants in the labor market, and often fill multiple roles – as workers, mothers, and caregivers for aging parents – and would benefit from workplace policies and practices that reflect the changing nature of the workforce, which also have the potential to play an important role for all workers. Continued recognition of the strides made by women since the passage of Title IX, as well as the barriers they continue to face, are important to moving our society toward true gender equality. Together, we can continue the work begun by suffragists in the 19th century and continued by women like Patsy Mink, to make this new world view strong and permanent for our daughters and sons, granddaughters and grandsons.